

**What is claimed is:**

1        1. A method of allocating network resources on a computer network,  
2 comprising:

3                monitoring at least two nodes on the computer network among at  
4 least a first process and a second process for allocation of computer  
5 resources on each of the at least two nodes;

6                for the first process running on at least one of the two nodes, setting  
7 a minimum resource allocation for the first process on the at least two  
8 nodes independent of the computer resources needed by other processes and  
9 processes running on the computer network.

10              2. The method of claim 1, wherein the minimum resource allocation  
1 is an allocation of computers and memory space on the network for the first  
2 process.

3              3. The method of claim 1, wherein the minimum resource allocation  
4 is an allocation of a minimum percentage of resources at the at least two  
5 nodes for the first process and for the second process.

6              4. The method of claim 1, wherein said monitoring step is performed  
7 periodically.

8              5. The method of claim 1, wherein said monitoring step is performed  
9 continually and the minimum resource allocation is an allocation of a  
1 minimum percentage of resources at the at least two nodes for the first  
2 process and for the second process.

1       6. The method of claim 1, comprising redistributing computer  
2 resources on the network so that the first process is provided the minimum  
3 resource allocation should insufficient network resources be available.  
4

01     7. The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of setting a  
02 maximum resource allocation for at least one of the first process and the  
03 second process.  
4

1       8. The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of assigning a  
2 priority to each of the at least two processes, the second process being  
3 assigned a lower priority than the first process and setting a minimum  
4 resource on the at least first and second processes independent of the  
5 computer resources needed by other processes and processes on the  
6 computer network, with the exception of the first process.

7       9. The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of storing the  
01 minimum resource allocation in a storage device.  
02  
3

1       10. The method of claim 1, wherein said monitoring step can be  
2 performed by any of the at least two nodes on the computer network.  
3

1       11. An article, comprising:  
2       at least one sequence of machine executable instructions in machine  
3 readable form,  
4       wherein execution of the instructions by one or more processors  
5 causes the one or more processors to:

- 6           (i) monitor at least two nodes on the computer network among at  
7       least two processes for allocation of computer resources on each of the at  
8       least two nodes; and
- 9           (ii) for a first process of the at least two processes running on at least  
10      one of the two nodes, set a minimum resource allocation for the first  
11      process on the at least two nodes irrespective of the computer resources  
12      needed by other processes and processes running on the computer network.
- 13

1        12. A computer architecture for switching resource allocation  
2 policies on a computer network, comprising:

3              monitoring means for monitoring at least two nodes on the computer  
4 network among at least a first and a second process for allocation of  
5 computer resources on each of the at least two nodes; and

6              for the first process running on at least one of the two nodes, setting  
7 means for setting a minimum resource allocation for the first process on the  
8 at least two nodes independent of the computer resources needed by other  
9 processes and processes running on the computer network.

10  
1        13. A computer system comprising:

2              a processor; and

3              a memory coupled to said processor, the memory having stored  
4 therein sequences of instructions, which, when executed by said processor,  
5 cause said processor to perform the steps of:

6              monitoring at least two nodes on the computer network among at  
7 least a first and a second process for allocation of computer resources on  
8 each of the at least two nodes;

9              for the first process running on at least one of the two nodes, setting  
10 a minimum resource allocation for the first process on the at least two  
11 nodes independent of the computer resources needed by other processes and  
12 processes running on the computer network.